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NASA Case No. LAR 16116-1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Russell A. Wincheski et al.

Serial No.: 10/021,683

Examiner: Darrell D. Kinder

Filed: November 28, 2001

Group No: 2862

For: MAGNETORESISTIVE FLUX FOCUSING EDDY CURRENT FLAW DETECTION

State of Virginia

City of Hampton, to wit:

AFFIDAVIT OF TINA HAWKS BUCHANAN

I, Tina Hawks Buchanan, being duly sworn, do hereby depose and say:

1. That I am a Paralegal Specialist employed by the Army Research Laboratory and assigned to the Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Langley Research Center, Hampton, Virginia.
2. My duties include verifying various dates to assist OCC Patent Attorneys in determining statutory bar dates.
3. On August 12, 2003, I executed an affidavit which provided information I obtained from Ellen Carrigan, Editorial Department, American Institute of Physics (AIP), at 516-576-2476, concerning the article entitled "Deep Flaw Detection with Giant Magnetoresistive (GMR) Based Self-Nulling Probe" by Wincheski et al. Ellen Carrigan had previously stated, as specified in my August 12, 2003 affidavit, that the article entitled "Deep Flaw Detection with Giant Magnetoresistive (GMR) Based Self-Nulling Probe" by Wincheski et al. was published in AIP Conference Proceedings May 23, 2000 - Volume 509, Issue 1, pp. 465-472, and that this publication was made available to the public on May 23, 2000. My August 12, 2003 affidavit was referenced within and filed with the Office Action Response forwarded by Applicants to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on August 12, 2003.

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4. On August 15, 2003, I received a telephone call from Ellen Carrigan, regarding the date the conference proceedings were made available to the public. Ellen Carrigan stated, during such August 15, 2003 telephone call, that the date of May 23, 2000, which she verified on August 12, 2003 as the date the conference proceedings were made available to the public, was actually the date the books of conference proceedings were shipped from the printers. Ellen Carrigan then stated that the date the conference proceedings were actually made available to the public was June 15, 2000.

Further deponent sayeth not.

Tina Hawks Buchanan
Tina Hawks Buchanan

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd
day of August 2003, in the aforesaid City and State.

Elaine C. McMahon
Elaine C. McMahon
Notary Public

My commission expires: September 30, 2003

FAX RECEIVED**AUG 25 2003****GROUP 2800****OFFICIAL**